



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
HEADQUARTERS 4TH AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS GROUP (USAFE)

## **COL WILLIAM R. TRAVNICK**

Date of Rank: 1 Sep 01

Colonel William R. Travnick is serving as the Commander, 4th Air Support Operations Group (ASOG), U. S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE), Heidelberg Army Installation, Germany. His previous assignment was as the Deputy Commander, 720<sup>th</sup> Special Tactics Group (STG), Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), Hurlburt Field FL.

Col Travnick is a command pilot with 3,400 hours in the A/OA-10, F-15C, AT-38, and A-7D. As Commander of the 355<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron (FS), Col Travnick had the distinction of commanding his unit during the 16-19 Dec 98 DESERT FOX combat strike missions against Iraq. The 355 FS was one of only three USAF fighter squadrons actively engaged in the conflict. Col Travnick has additional combat experience over Bosnia-Herzegovina and earned an Aerial Achievement Medal for missions conducted along the Korean Demilitarized Zone. He has a total of 20 combat missions and 37.8 combat hours.

Col Travnick earned his undergraduate degree from the Air Force Academy in 1979, his master's degree from Drake University in 1984, his Intermediate Service School diploma from the Army Command and General Staff College in 1994, and his Senior Service School diploma as an Air Force Fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies in 2000. A Distinguished/Outstanding Graduate of undergraduate pilot training, AT-38 training, A-7D training, and A/OA-10 training, Col Travnick is a nine-time Top Gun/Instructor Pilot of the Quarter and two-time Wing Company Grade Officer of the Quarter. He has Secretary of the Air Force-level staff experience through his recent position as Chief, Mideast/Africa Division, International Affairs, and Major Command-level staff experience as a Security Assistance International Programs Officer on the Air Combat Command staff.

Col Travnick and his wife Deb have four children, Elizabeth, Danielle, Billy, and Kaylee.

### **EDUCATION**

1979 Bachelor of science degree in international affairs, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO  
1984 Master's degree in public administration, Drake University, IA  
1984 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL  
1986 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence  
1994 Army Command and General Staff College, Ft Leavenworth, KS  
1996 Air War College, by seminar  
2000 Air Force Fellowship, Institute for National Security Studies, U.S. Air Force Academy

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. June 1979 - November 1979, Career Counselor and Graduate Assistant Football Coach, US Air Force Academy, Colorado
2. November 1979 - October 1980, student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Reese AFB, TX
3. November 1980 - July 1981, student, A-7D Operational Training Course, Tucson IAP, AZ

4. August 1981 - September 1984, A-7 Aircraft Commander, 132nd Tactical Fighter Wing, Des Moines MAP, IA
5. October 1984 - November 1987, AT-38 Fighter Leader-In Instructor Pilot, then Wing Life Support Officer, 479th Tactical Training Wing, Holloman AFB, NM
6. December 1987 - April 1988, student, F-15C Conversion Course Training, Luke AFB, AZ
7. May 1988 - May 1991, F-15C Aircraft Commander, then Flight Commander for 12th Tactical Fighter Squadron, later Chief, Wing Exercise Plans Branch, 18th Tactical Fighter Wing, Kadena AB, Japan
8. June 1991 - May 1993, F-16 International Programs Officer, Headquarters Air Combat Command Security Assistance Division, Langley AFB, VA
9. June 1993 - July 1994, student, Army Command and General Staff College, Ft Leavenworth, KS
10. August 1994 - January 1995, student, A/OA-10 Conversion Course, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
11. February 1995 - May 1999, Assistant Operations Officer, 353d Combat Training Squadron, then Assistant Operations Officer, later Commander, 355th Fighter Squadron, then Deputy Operations Group Commander for Maintenance, 354th Operations Group, Eielson AFB, AK
12. June 1999 - June 2000, student, Institute for National Security Studies, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO
13. June 2000 - July 2002, Deputy Chief, then Chief, Mideast/Africa Division, Directorate of Regional Affairs, International Affairs, Pentagon, Washington D.C.
14. July 2002 - June 2003, Deputy Commander, 720th Special Tactics Group, Hurlburt Field, FL
15. July 2003 - present, Commander, 4th Air Support Operations Group, Heidelberg Army Installation, Germany

#### **FLYING TIME**

A/OA-10 (IP/EP)	887.9	hours	(20 Combat Sorties and 37.8 Combat Hours)
F-15C/D (IP/MP)	749.2	hours	
AT-38 (IP/MP)	809.9	hours	
A-7D (MP)	782.8	hours	
<u>Student Pilot</u>	<u>173.1</u>	<u>hours</u>	
Grand Total	3,402.9	hours	

#### **MAJOR DECORATIONS**

Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters  
 Air Medal  
 Aerial Achievement Medal  
 Air Force Commendation Medal  
 Air Force Achievement Medal

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Member, Air Force Academy Athletic Association  
 Member, Air Force Academy Association of Graduates  
 Member, Pi Alpha Alpha (National Honors Society for Public Affairs and Administration)  
 Member, Wyoming Stock Growers Association